

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	MARK E. EIDSON et al.	§	Group Art Unit:	2641
Serial No.:	09/185,248	§		
Filed:	November 3, 1998	§	Examiner:	A. Armstrong
For:	MIXING DIVERSELY ENCODED DATA STREAMS	§	Atty. Dkt. No.:	ITL.0136US (P6520)

Rox AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington DC 20231

Official

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED MARCH 12, 2002

Sir:

Please amend the application as set forth below.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please add on page 2, new lines 11-27 as follows:

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--In one embodiment the invention provides a method to combine two or more data streams. The method includes receiving a first data stream in a first encoded format, decoding the first data stream into a decoded format, obtaining a second data stream in the decoded format, and combining the decoded first data stream with the second data stream. The first encoded format may, for example, be associated with a video data stream, an audio data stream, or a multimedia data stream. The decoded format may be any format which allows two or more data streams to be combined in a direct manner. Instructions representing the method may be stored in any media that is readable and executable by a computer system.--

--In another embodiment, the invention provides a computer system comprising a multimedia source, a host processor to receive an encoded data stream from the multimedia source, a decoder to decode at least a portion of the received encoded data stream, a mixer to combine two or more data streams (each of which are in a decoded format), and an encoder to encode the combined data streams.--

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Dawn L. Thomas